The fiery furnace

*When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you. Isaiah 43:2 NLT*

# Daniel chapter 3

1) The image of Gold: The alure of culture – vs1-7

* Don’t be conformed to the world – Romans 12:2, Matthew 7:13, John 17:15, 1 John 2:15
* “You will always reproduce the environment around you that you cultivate within you.” Kris Vallotton
* Some music, movies, MSM and the arts promote the world’s values; use discernment

2) Daniel’s friends disobey the King: Refuse to conform – vs8-17

* It may cost you to do what’s right – Galatians 1:10, Proverbs 29:25
* The rage of the world makes no sense – John 15:18-25, James 1:19-20
* You may have to change friends – James 4:4, Proverbs 13:20, 2 Corinthians 6:14

3) Saved in the fiery trial – vs19-25

* The 4th man appears when you are in the fire – 1 Peter 5:12-14
* Bondages are burned off in the fire – Matthew 3:11-12, Malachi 3:1-3

4) Nebuchadnezzar praises God – vs26-30

* People come to Christ when we make a stand
* People should never be forced to be a Christian

*And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. Joshua 24:15*

*I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live. Deuteronomy 30:19*

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